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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/541,593	04/03/2000	Masanori Mukaiyama	Q58612	4884

7590

06/17/2004

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EXAMINER

SALAD, ABDULLAHI ELMI

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2157

DATE MAILED: 06/17/2004

124

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/541,593

Applicant(s)

MUKAIYAMA ET AL.

Examiner

Salad E Abdullahi

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2157

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 April 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 03 April 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. In view of the appeal brief filed on 4/9/2004, PROSECUTION IS HEREBY REOPENED. as set forth below.

To avoid abandonment of the application, appellant must exercise one of the following two options:

- (1) file a reply under 37 CFR 1.111 (if this Office action is non-final) or a reply under 37 CFR 1.113 (if this Office action is final); or,
- (2) request reinstatement of the appeal.

If reinstatement of the appeal is requested, such request must be accompanied by a supplemental appeal brief, but no new amendments, affidavits (37 CFR 1.130, 1.131 or 1.132) or other evidence are permitted. See 37 CFR 1.193(b)(2).

2. Applicant's arguments filled on 4/9/2004 with respect claims 1-13 have been fully considered but they are moot in view of new ground of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of

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the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

4. Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable by Carcerano et al., U. S. Patent No. 6,308,205[hereinafter Carcerano] in view of Itoh et al., U.S. patent No. 6,330,611[hereinafter Itoh].

As to claim 1, Carcerano discloses a device management network system including a management server, one or more network devices to be managed, and one or more client devices, each of the one or more network devices comprising:

a status information storing part for storing status information (see col. 4, lines 16-21);
a monitoring part for monitoring predetermined parts to determine whether each of the predetermined parts is functioning properly, and updating the status information stored in the status information storing part so as to include information about all abnormalities that have occurred in the predetermined parts based on monitoring results (col. 1, lines 53-59); and

a request responding part for when receiving a status information request from the management server, sending the status information stored in the status information storing part to the management server, and the management server comprising:

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a specifying part for specifying all abnormalities that has occurred in the network device identified by the identification information in the device-details screen request based on the status information obtained by the information obtaining part (see col. 9, lines 16-32); and

an information sending part for sending information indicating all abnormalities specified by the specifying part to the client device that has sent the device-details screen request (col. 11, lines 7-17).

a status information obtaining part for containing identification information of a network device among the one or more network devices from a client device running a Web browser, obtaining status information stored in the status information storing part of the network device identified by the identification information in the device-details screen request by sending the status information request to the network device (see col. 10, lines 12-47;

Carcerano is silent regarding:

the status information is obtained when device detail screen request is received. Itoh in analogous art discloses a client peripheral device-based network resource management system for inquiring information such as status information from a network device, wherein the status information is obtained when device detail screen request is received (see fig. 8 and col. 7, lines 26-53). Furthermore, although Carcerano teaches obtaining the status information from a local database, the alternative mechanism for retrieving the status information at the time the request is received would be beneficial to Carceran's system in order to provide current state of the network device to the

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requesting client/browser. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teaching of Itoh such as obtaining the status information when device detail screen request is received, thus providing the requesting client current state of the network device.

As to claim 2, Itoh discloses the device management network system according to claim 1, wherein said information sending part of the management server sends information containing names of image files associating with the abnormalities specified by the specifying part (see fig. 16, and col. 10, lines 6-27).

As to claim 3, Itoh discloses the device management network system according to claim 1, wherein the status information in said status information storing part of a network device contains a type information indicating the type of network device and wherein the said management server further comprises:

an image data storing part for storing a plurality of image data each of which representing outside appearance of a network device (see fig. 16 and col. 10, lines 6-50); and

an image data sending part for selecting from the plurality of image data an image data corresponding to the network device specified by the identification information in the status information obtained by the status information obtaining part, and for sending the image data to the client device that has sent the device-details screen request (see fig. 16 and col. 10, lines 6-50).

As to claim 4, Itoh discloses the device management network system according to claim 1, wherein the management server further has functions of the client device (see col. 7, lines 26-53).

As per to claim 5, Carcerano discloses the device management network system according to claim 1, wherein each of the one or more network devices is a network printer (col. 4, lines 48-49).

As to claim 6, Carcerano discloses a device management network system including a management server, one or more network devices to be managed, and one or more client devices, each of the one or more network devices comprising:

- a status information storing part for storing status information (see col. 4, lines 16-21);
- a monitoring part for monitoring predetermined parts to determine whether each of the predetermined parts is functioning properly, and updating the status information stored in the status information storing part so as to include information about all abnormalities that have occurred in the predetermined parts based on monitoring results (col. 1, lines 53-59); and
- a request responding part for when receiving a status information request from the management server, sending the status information stored in the status information storing part to the management server, and the management server comprising:

a specifying part for specifying all abnormalities that has occurred in the network device identified by the identification information in the device-details screen request based on the status information obtained by the information obtaining part (see col. 9, lines 16-32); and

an information sending part for sending information indicating all abnormalities specified by the specifying part to the client device that has sent the device-details screen request (col. 11, lines 7-17).

a status information obtaining part for containing identification information of a network device among the one or more network devices from a client device running a Web browser, obtaining status information stored in the status information storing part of the network device identified by the identification information in the device-details screen request by sending the status information request to the network device (see col. 10, lines 12-47;

Carcerano is silent regarding:

the status information is obtained when device detail screen request is received. Itoh in analogous art discloses a client peripheral device-based network resource management system for inquiring information such as status information from a network device, wherein the status information is obtained when device detail screen request is received (see fig. 8 and col. 7, lines 26-53). Furthermore, although Carcerano teaches obtaining the status information from a local database, the alternative mechanism for retrieving the status information at the time the request is received would be beneficial to Carceran's system in order to provide current state of the network device to the

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requesting client/browser. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teaching of Itoh such as obtaining the status information when device detail screen request is received, thus providing the requesting client current state of the network device.

As to claim 7, Itoh discloses the device management network system according to claim 6, wherein said information sending part of the management server sends information containing names of image files associating with the abnormalities specified by the specifying part (see fig. 16, and col. 10, lines 6-27).

As to claim 8, Itoh discloses the device management network system according to claim 6, wherein the status information in said status information storing part of a network device contains a type information indicating the type of network device and wherein the said management server further comprises:

an image data storing part for storing a plurality of image data each of which representing outside appearance of a network device (see fig. 16 and col. 10, lines 6-50); and

an image data sending part for selecting from the plurality of image data an image data corresponding to the network device specified by the identification information in the status information obtained by the status information obtaining part, and for sending the image data to the client device that has sent the device-details screen request (see fig. 16 and col. 10, lines 6-50).

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As to claim 9, Carcerano discloses a device management network system including a management server, one or more network devices to be managed, and one or more client devices, each of the one or more network devices comprising:

a status information storing part for storing status information (see col. 4, lines 16-21);

a monitoring part for monitoring predetermined parts to determine whether each of the predetermined parts is functioning properly, and updating the status information stored in the status information storing part so as to include information about all abnormalities that have occurred in the predetermined parts based on monitoring results (col. 1, lines 53-59); and

a request responding part for when receiving a status information request from the management server, sending the status information stored in the status information storing part to the management server, and the management server comprising:

a specifying part for specifying all abnormalities that has occurred in the network device identified by the identification information in the device-details screen request based on the status information obtained by the information obtaining part (see col. 9, lines 16-32); and

an information sending part for sending information indicating all abnormalities specified by the specifying part to the client device that has sent the device-details screen request (col. 11, lines 7-17).

a status information obtaining part for containing identification information of a network device among the one or more network devices from a client device running a Web browser, obtaining status information stored in the status information storing part of the

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network device identified by the identification information in the device-details screen request by sending the status information request to the network device (see col. 10, lines 12-47;

Carcerano is silent regarding:

the status information is obtained when device detail screen request is received. Itoh in analogous art discloses a client peripheral device-based network resource management system for inquiring information such as status information from a network device, wherein the status information is obtained when device detail screen request is received (see fig. 8 and col. 7, lines 26-53). Furthermore, although Carcerano teaches obtaining the status information from a local database, the alternative mechanism for retrieving the status information at the time the request is received would be beneficial to Carceran's system in order to provide current state of the network device to the requesting client/browser. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teaching of Itoh such as obtaining the status information when device detail screen request is received, thus providing the requesting client current state of the network device.

As to claim 10, Itoh discloses the device management network system according to claim 9, wherein said information sending part of the management server sends information containing names of image files associating with the abnormalities specified by the specifying part (see fig. 16, and col. 10, lines 6-27).

As to claim 11, Itoh discloses the device management network system according to claim 9, wherein the status information in said status information storing part of a network device contains a type information indicating the type of network device and wherein the said management server further comprises:

an image data storing part for storing a plurality of image data each of which representing outside appearance of a network device (see fig. 16 and col. 10, lines 6-50); and

an image data sending part for selecting from the plurality of image data an image data corresponding to the network device specified by the identification information in the status information obtained by the status information obtaining part, and for sending the image data to the client device that has sent the device-details screen request (see fig. 16 and col. 10, lines 6-50).

As to claim 12, Carcerano discloses a device management network system including a management server, one or more network devices to be managed, and one or more client devices, each of the one or more network devices comprising:

a status information storing part for storing status information (see col. 4, lines 16-21);

a monitoring part for monitoring predetermined parts to determine whether each of the predetermined parts is functioning properly, and updating the status information stored in the status information storing part so as to include information about all abnormalities that have occurred in the predetermined parts based on monitoring results (col. 1, lines 53-59); and

a request responding part for when receiving a status information request from the management server, sending the status information stored in the status information storing part to the management server, and the management server comprising:
a specifying part for specifying all abnormalities that has occurred in the network device identified by the identification information in the device-details screen request based on the status information obtained by the information obtaining part (see col. 9, lines 16-32); and

an information sending part for sending information indicating all abnormalities specified by the specifying part to the client device that has sent the device-details screen request (col. 11, lines 7-17).

a status information obtaining part for containing identification information of a network device among the one or more network devices from a client device running a Web browser, obtaining status information stored in the status information storing part of the network device identified by the identification information in the device-details screen request by sending the status information request to the network device (see col. 10, lines 12-47;

Carcerano is silent regarding:

the status information is obtained when device detail screen request is received. Itoh in analogous art discloses a client peripheral device-based network resource management system for inquiring information such as status information from a network device, wherein the status information is obtained when device detail screen request is received (see fig. 8 and col. 7, lines 26-53). Furthermore, although Carcerano teaches

obtaining the status information from a local database, the alternative mechanism for retrieving the status information at the time the request is received would be beneficial to Carceran's system in order to provide current state of the network device to the requesting client/browser. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teaching of Itoh such as obtaining the status information when device detail screen request is received, thus providing the requesting client current state of the network device.

As to claim 13, Itoh discloses the device management network system according to claim 12, wherein the status information in said status information storing part of a network device contains a type information indicating the type of network device and wherein the said management server further comprises:

an image data storing part for storing a plurality of image data each of which representing outside appearance of a network device (see fig. 16 and col. 10, lines 6-50); and

an image data sending part for selecting from the plurality of image data an image data corresponding to the network device specified by the identification information in the status information obtained by the status information obtaining part, and for sending the image data to the client device that has sent the device-details screen request (see fig. 16 and col. 10, lines 6-50).

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CONCLUSION


5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to the applicant's disclosure.
6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Salad E Abdullahi whose telephone number is 703-308-8441. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 - 5:00. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on 703-305-4792. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.
7. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any response to this action should mailed to:
Box AF

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, DC 20231

or faxed to: (703) 872-9306.


Abdullahi Salad
Examiner Au 2157
6/11/2004